Westervelt and Thomas B. Stillman, esqs., a Commission to investigate the condition of the ferry.

We append their report, but Law sets the Commissioners of the Sinking Find at defiance, and they have no proper authority to afford the required redress.

The bill of last year is again presented to the Legislature, with the hope of better success. It would be fatal to the interests, safety, and comfort of the residents of Staten I-land, and of the numberless city Summer visions to grant the Buttery front, which is the

mer visiors, to grant the Buttery front, which is the termination of the committee routes and the key of the termination of the control of the control of the communication, to private individuals, protected from competition.
We submit that a ferry is to be managed for the ben-

We submit that a ferry is to be managed for the bed-efit of the people. After a proper remuneration for the use of capital, and the expense of management, the peo-ple should reap the benefits in the reduction of fare and increased facilities. Thus the frequency of the trips and rate of ferrisge will be measured by the amount of The present monopoly claims to own nearly three miles of continuous water front on the island, and thus

miles of continuous water front on the Island, and the obstructs the establishment of proper ferries. The necessides of the people as well authorize the taking of private property for public use, upon just compensation, in the case of a ferry, as for streets and rail cads. We propose that the power to establish and regulate all ferries to Staten Island shall be conferred upon the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, one of the significant with the City Corporation, in order to avoid any conflict with the claim under its charter to establish ferries to Staten Island, which, however, we deny.

By amendments of last Winter's bill we propose:

1. To embrace the space between Pier No. 1, North Kiver, and Pier No. 1, East River, as that within which ferry landings may be established; 2. To exclude these ferries from the exception in the act of Congress for the preservation of human life; and 3. To avoid confirming the illegal grant by the city of the present ferry landing, thus leaving void the present lease.

The present hoats are notoriously unsafe and uncomfortable, and the accommodation utterly inadequate, while we think that, upon proper investigation, it obstructs the establishment of proper ferries. The ne-

The present hosts are notoriously unsafe and uncomfortable, and the accommodation utterly inadequate, while we think that, upon proper investigation, it would appear that the net annual income exceeds \$180,000, much more than the whole value of the property in use for the ferry. The original petition is in the hands of the Hon. S. T. Webster, a New-York member, whose watchfulness and honesty aided materially in defeating the substituted bill list Winter. PETITIONERS.

Report of Commissioners appointed by the Commisstoners of the Sinking Fund: To the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund of the City of New-

Report of Commissioners appointed by the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund:

To the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund of the City of New-York:

We, the understaned, who were appointed a Commission by your honorable body to investigate the condition of the boats upon the Staten Island Ferry, and whether they are day maintained in accordance with the provisions of the lease executed by the City Corporation to Jacob L. Smith, dated May 15, 1856, under which the said ferries are conducted, respectfully

That we have devoted ourselves to the responsible duty devolved upon us, with all the care and caution which so important a subject seemed to demand. The lease in question provides insist the lease shall, at his own expense. "find, furnish provide maintain, keep and navigate spon the said ferry, from the foot of Whitehall street to Staten Island, as aforesaid, such number of safe and comfortable seam ferry boats, adapted to the navigation between the City of New-York and Staten Island, as the public convenience may require and to be approved of by the Commissions of the Sinking Fund, and keep the said ferry boats at all reasonable times continually employed on the said ferry during the time hereby demised and will run the same as frequently on every day as the public convenience may require."

The boats, owned by the Ferry Company and now running on the two ferries, consist of the Staten Islander, built in the year 150 (and now 21 years old); the Hunghback, built in the year 150 (and now 21 years old); the Hunghback, built in the year 150 (and now 21 years old); the Hunghback, built in 1851 (9 years old); and the Sylph, built in 1853 (17 years old). The majority of these boats at the individual only be 1 said with such number of passengers. teams and freignt, as boats of their class should be required they should only be 1 said of passengers at times on board, these boats are sometimes so overloaded with passengers and recombined to carry, but owing to the running the head of the boat at the respective termin, thus

quired for the public convenience, and for any adequate correction of the present evil.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

New-York, June 28, 1860.

T. B. STILLMAN.

THE WHEAT CROP DIMINISHING.

The business world has been astonished by the mag nitude of a wheat crop which came crowding, in quan tities before unknown, into all the great grain centers of the West, taxing railroads beyond their capacity, giving employment to every tun of shipping on the lakes, and pouring into New-York in such a deluge as to glut the market for exchange. Prices for both have sunk under the pressure of this glut, the latter lower than at any former period. Though the aggravated by political dislocations, yet the fact of an apparently overwhelming wheat crop remains. We say apparently, because its magnitude may, after all, be only relative-a sort of accident, having occasional antecedents, yet void of any certain equality in the future. An abundant general crop in this country is the direct boon of Providence, not the sure return for human effort. The latter is constantly and regularly exerted, yet the result cominues to be so uncertain that a glut approximating what we now behold becomes the wonder. Skill and care in agriculture may go far to neutralize those dangerons vicissitudes of chmate season, and the inroads of insects which often blast the farmer's hopes; but facts will turn up, in looking closely into this important question, showing that there must be some radical defect in the wheat-growing of this country. If such were not the case, every wheat crop would be a generous one, with no cycles of failure unto famine, or others of exuberance unto choking the machinery of commerce. The great West has just emerged from one of the former, to barreh out, we hope into one of the latter. The South, having had its seven years of plenty, is just entering on what we also hope may not prove to be its seven years of famine

The tables of the new census being yet incomplete, reference can only be had to the seven previous cen suses. In 1790, the United States exported 1.018 33 bushels of wheat. In 1820, the export had sunk to 25.821 bushels. In 1830, it rose to 408,910; in 1840, to 868,585; and in 1850, to 1,026,725 bushels; or only 8,386 more than sixty years previously. These extra ordinary vibratious in the export are measurably governed by the shortness or abundance of the crop. When short, we have less to spare; when full, we have more. But the fact has long been noticed that our wheat-pro ducing power is rapidly declining. In fifty years this great staple of Obio has diminished from an average yield of 30 bushels per acre to less than 15. In cleven countles of that State, which in 1850 yielded 7,531,757 bushels, there were but 4,413,207 produced in 1857, though in the interval many thousands of acres of new land must have been broken up and sowed with wheat. Virginia, Maryland and Delaware, have ceased producing largely, while in New-England the diminution is almost incredible. In 1840, Rhode Island produced 3,098 bushels, but ten years later only only 49. Within the same period Connecticut fell from 87,000 bushels to 42,000; Maine from 848,000 to 296,000; Massachusetts, from 158,000 to 31,000; New-Hampshire, from 432,000 to 186,000; Verment alone maintaining her ground by yielding 535,956 bushels in 1850, against 495,800 in 18.0. In the same period Tennessee fell from 4,569,692 40 1,619,386 bushels; Kentucky, from 4,803,152 to 2,142,822; Georgia, from 1,801,830 to 1,088,534, and Alabama, from 838,520 to 294,044. The whole wheat crop of the Union in 1840, was 88,513,270 bushels while in 1850 it had risen only to 100,585,814 bushels an increase of only 12,072,544 in ten years, of which increase, Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin, supplied every bushel-showing conclusively that all the old wheat regions were rapidly deteriorating. Within the same period, only nine of the fifteen Slave States inereased their crops, while the falling off in the whole

fifteen was 2,200,316 bushels. Particular localities afford remarkable evidence this general deterioration. New-York was formerly a great producer of wheat, but her increase in 1850 was not ten per cent over 1840. Many portions of the State

which once produced 25 bushels per acre now barely average 5. An English traveler in 1775 was amazed at finding that the land around Albany yielded 30 to 40 bushels per acre, with the most imperfect husbandry. while in England their best-managed land did not yiel half so much. Yet in 1845 the average of the same Albany region had sunk to 7j bushels per acre. In Dutchess County, it had dwindled to 5; in Columbia, to 6; in Reusselner, to 8; and in Westchester, to 7. In some portions of Maryland and Virginia, wheat is no onger cultivated on land which forty years ago produced abundant crops. Ohio itself, the second on the list of wheat-producing States, is rapidly losing ground. In Canada, the yield is so steadily diminishing that within a period of 17 years it fell from 22,981,244 to 942,835 bushels, a difference of over 22,000,000.

It may be inferred with some reason, from such an array of facts, that the comparatively barren harvests of the last few years are just what ought to be expected in the future, and that the abundant crop of 1860 is abogether exceptional. It is evident that the relative production of food to increase of population, is annually diminishing, notwithstanding the opening up of virgin soils to the plow. As these are opened, oth ers are abandoned from exhaustion. Without these virgin soils to flee to, the failure of a single wheat crop would occasion a national scarcity. Actual famine can never occur in this country, because in its enormous corn crop it will eyer hold a granary almost large enough to feed the world. The boast has been that we could feed the world with wheat, but nothing could be wider of the truth. In the single month of October last, we shipped \$6,000,000 of grain and flour to England, but in the same month of the preceding year we sent her none. Such are the uncertainties of dependence on a market abroad, instead of upon one at home. The crop of 1848, amounting to 126,000,000 bushels, is held to be an average one. We then had 22,000,000 inhabitants, giving within a fraction of 54 bushels to each. But England consumes 166,000,000 bushels annually, or 6 bushels each. We send her wheat whenever she needs it, but we spare it only because we have corn to fall back upon. If it were not for this peculiar product of our chimate, all the wheat we raise would be insufficient for our own wants. Our average export is 12,000,000 bushels, all in fact we can spare. This surplus, moreover, is annually diminishing. The present abundant crop may erable us to exceed this quantity, but the average will not be enlarged. Our population dcubles in about twenty years, yet the relative diminution of the wheat crop is so great, that unless our mode of agriculture is improved, and the ratio per acre increased, the export will entirely cease, and we shall not produce enough for ourselves. The census of 1870 will probably establish this fact.

The gravest reasons exist for such an opinion. The prevalent belief that this whole continent is adapted to wheat-growing is a great misapprehension. Our wild lands are not all wheat land. On the contrary, the true, reliable wheat region of this country is ascertained to be limited to ten degrees of latitude and twenty of longitude, covering about balf the States. Beyond these limits wheat is certainly produced, but it is almost exclusively Spring wheat, an inferior article, giving less yield and always selling low. As New-England lies outside of this belt, it can never be a wheat-producing region. Vermont alone increased her product in the last decade, the increase being only 40,000 bushels, and this in the face of legislative premiums held forth to stimulate its cultivation. Formerly she was a large wheat-exporting State; now she does not export a bushel, but imports more than half of all the flour she consumes. Manufacturing has superseded agriculture, because more profitable, and the consumer having placed himself beside the producer, both are prospering. New-England soil, when first breken up, produces good wheat, but exhaustive cropping has diminished its productiveness everywhere, in fact, a virgin soil will wear out. The lands south of North Carolina have never been and never can be reliable for wheat. In only four States south of this line, has there been an increase in the last ten years, and that of only 150,000 bushels. In the extreme South the diminution has been enormous. The gain in Delaware and Maryland exceeded more than half the loss of the whole lifteen Slave States. Florida. Louisiana, and Texas, produced in 1850 only 43,373

The West is heralded as the cornucopia of the world, in which the wheat plant finds its most congenial home. Her now bursting granaries would seem to confirm this idea. But two preceding harvests were disastrons failures, though in the same two seasons New-York and Pennsylvania had abundant crops. Her virgin prairies, when first broken up, usually produce good wheat. But the soil is loose and friable, often covered with water in Winter, and the grain, being heaved up by frost, is killed. The longer these prairies are cultivated, the more liable come to these disasters. Hence the cultivation of Spring wheat has been resorted to as the readies remedy. The quantity grown may be larger, but the quality is inferior, and the price always lower. Such grain is raised so readily on prairie soil that it is no wonder the yield of Illinois rose from 2,335,393 bushels in 1840 to 9,414,575 in 1850, and Wisconsin in the same period from 212,116 to 4,286,231. But the popular quinion that this region is to be the permanent granary of the Union may well be doubted. It will unquestionably go on increasing its annual product, as new prairies are broken up, until the whole has been subjected to tillage. But while the new lands are yielding liberally, those first tilled will be wearing out more rapidly than those of the Atlantic States, which conain the true wheat soils of the continent. It is difficult to bring the mind to let go a long settled belief of this kind, and still more to believe that the Western limit of the true wheat region has already been reached by the settler.

But such is the fact. On the great American plains, xtending to the Rocky Mountains, perpetual barrenness rests. Thence to the Pacific is a wilderness in which Indians alone can dwell, because it produces came culy. Here the traveler moves on for days without once finding water. Then comes the creat Colorado desert, niterly bare of soil and vegetation. Nearly all Sonora is sterile, and most of New-Mexico has no agricultural value. No wheat can be grown over all this vast region, unless it be in a small portion of Western Texas, and the narrow belt along the Pacific. Ohio is the real Western boundary of the wheatproducing region. As a general rule, in those sections where no Leavy snows occur to protect the Fall-sown grain, wheat cannot be raised to profit, and Spring wheat must be the substitute. It is even doubted by close observers whether Winter wheat has ever been grown to profit unless covered by a blanket of snow. This region embraces Ohio, the Southern portions of Michigan and New-York, all Pennsylvania, Maryland and Delaware. It is proved by the census returns that the product of those S ates in 1850 was 48,385,000 bushels, or 2,000,000 less than half of the whole national harvest. Geological research points to the large mixture of clay in all these soils as being indispensable to continuous production of wheat, and infers its absence from the Western prairies as foreshadowing their early abandonment as wheat fields. Ohio, with a clay loam, produces 164 bushels to each inhabitant, while Indiana. with a richer soil, produces only 81 bushels, and Illinois, with a soil still richer, yields only 7 bushels to each

While the ratio per acre has thus been steadily diinishing during half a century, British agriculture has been revolutionized the other way. Here we have been skinning the land to exhaustion, and like the wasteful cotton-grower, pulling up and moving off to newer land that needed no labor for manuring. There they have swept the battle-fields of Europe for the bones of friend and foe, brought them, at great expense, to their own shores, and ground them up to fertilize their lands. Ships are often loaded at New-York and Philadelphia with bones for English wheat-fields, that ought to have been retained for use at home. They have expended an untold sum for guano. More underdrains have been laid in England than in all the world beside. Fertilizers innumerable are consumed in immense quantities. Roots have become a staple of

the kingdom, feeding more cattle than ever, and pro-

ducing manure in abundance. Under this renovating sy tem the land is so enriched that in England the average yield of wheat is 36 bushels per acre, while crops of 88 bushels have been raised. Yet she has never been able to raise food enough for her vast manufacturing population. A failure in her grain crop affects the exchanges of the world. In France, the same calamity produces revolution. We are now helping to feed both nations, though England is our largest customer. Yet England is the greatest food-exporting country known. What we soll to her in flour and grain, we buy back in cloth and iron, which we should manufacture ourselves, thus building up communities of consumers on this instead of on the other side of the

These facts, all pointing to an annually diminishing ability for the production of wheat, would seem to prove that the present heavy crop is a mere exceptional dessing, not to be relied on in the future, and that we are steadily exhausting the productive energy of the true wheat region by incessant cropping without adequate manuring. As that region cannot be enlarged, the waste is lost eight of by subsidizing new solls of merely temporary richness, to supply an annually increasing deficiency in the former. We call attention to the great statistical fact, leaving to others to suggest a remedy. If it lie in better culture, in high manuring, or in specific fertilizers, the sooner the agricultural world becomes acquainted with it, the sooner our downward progress in wheat culture will be arrested.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

BOARD OF COUNCILMEN.

BOARD OF COUNCILMEN.

The Board met yesterday afternoon, Mr. Jones, the President, in the chair.

Resolutions—By Mr. Smith, that the office of Distributor of Ordinances be abolished. Referred to Special Committee. By Mr. Lent, directing the Controller to furnish the Board a correct copy of the very rolls of the Street, Croton, and City Inspectors' Departments, giving the names and amount paid each employee for the last three months of 1860. Adopted. By Mr. Leut, to authorize the Clerk of the Common Council to procure a stand of colors for the 8th Regiment, N. Y. S. M., the cost not to exceed \$500. To Committee on Arts and Sciences. By Mr. Leng, directing Corporation Council to take the necessary proceedings to have Ninety-sixth street opened, from Fifth avenue to the Harlem River. To Committee on Roads.

By Mr. Prickney-Directing the Street Commis By Mr. PYNCKNET—Directing the Street Commis-sioner to report under what authority he is causing the alterations to the Essex Market. Adopted. By Mr. LENT—Directing the Corporation Counsel to farnish the Board with a list of all the streets, avenues, or public places which the Common Council have, during the last five years, directed to be opened; the number of petitions for such action; the date of the order of the Supreme Court appeinting Commissioners; the ex-penses attending proceedings in each case, &c. Adopted.

Adopted.

The Principlent appointed Mesers, Long, Orton, and Gross, a Special Committee to consider the petition of the residents of Morrissania asking to have that town

annexed to the City of New-York.

The Mayor sent in a communication setting forth that the practice of throwing salt in the streets was injurious to the health of the citizens, and recommending that no exception be made in the ordinance prohibiting the throwing of salt in the streets, in favor of the railroad companies. Referred to Committee on unication was received from the Street Com-

missioner, in reply to an inquiry as to the expenses incurred for requires. &c., for the Fire Department during 1800. The following is a recapitulation: Repairs and alterations of houses of house companies 22 412 68
Repairs and alterations of houses of house companies 22 412 68
Repairs and alteration of houses of house companies 22 412 68
Repairs and alterations of Fireman's Hall. 81 18
Expenses incurred in 1300 and paid for in 1361 . 7,270 17

The work ordered by the Bureau of Repairs and Supplies for the Fire Department and now in progress amounts to \$24,480, and the work ordered by the Common Council not yet commenced to \$47,650. Ordered to be critically the commenced to \$47,650.

mon Council not yet commenced to \$40,000. Ordered to be printed.

A position was received from Dominick Sicot and others, representing that they were members of Engine Company No. 5, and asking for remuneration for extra services at the great fire in Ann street, in January, 1860. They were placed on duty upon what is called a "watch line," and were on duty two days and two nights; and they state that it has been the custom of the Chief Engineer to pay firemen amending to this particular-duty. Referred to Committee on Fire Desartment. partment. A remonstrance was received from a large number of

Insurance Companies against the proposed ordinance for renumbering the streets. Referred to Committee

on Ordinances.

In reply to a resolution of inquiry, the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department submitted a statement of the number, cost, bention, and the names of the builders of the several steam fire-engines now in use by the Department. It appears that there are nine of these engines now in use, and three others are hine of constructed by resolution of the Common Council. Nearly all the engines were built by Mesers. Lee & Larned. The caper was referred to the Committee on Fire Department.

Fire Department.
The Board then adjourned to Monday.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The regular monthly meeting of the Chamber of commerce was held yesterday, at I o'clock, Mr. Petz-

Commerce was held yesterday, at 1 o'clock, Mr. Pele-Tian Pentr, President, in the chair.

After the election of Messrs. Ezra R. Goodrich and Charles E. Hill as members, and the nomination of Messrs. Robert Bellini, Jos. Pierson, Algernou S. Jar-vis, Wm. B. Clark, Thomas Woodward, Wm. Mc-Naughton, Francis Tryon, Samuel Mellean, H. F. Spaleing, and Justus R. Bulkley, as new members, Mr. Cotheal was made a member of the Committee on Arbibration. Arbibration.

Mr. Orderer rend the following remonstrance to the idoption of the Tariff bill now before Congress at sington: Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives in

Whenington:

To the Honoralie the Senuis and House of Representatives in Congress convened:

The Chamber of Commerce of the State of New-York respectfully represent that the Tariff bill now before the Senate is liable to the following objections:

It proposes a radial change of policy on a uniject of vital interact to commerce and every other branch of industry. It suberdinates the question of revenue orbit priorities of protection, and it substitutes a complex system of specific and advanced duties for the present simple of violence, it is respectfully submitted, should only be made after careful investigation and mature desired only be made after careful investigation and mature desired only in the commerce and the public revenue, it is respectfully submitted, should only be made after careful investigation and mature desired only in the commerce and the public revenue, it is those whose interests are to be affected by it should have time to examine its provisions, a certain the probable effects, and present their views to tiorentment. The 2th accident of the bill virtually abolishes the warehousing system. As it passed the House of Representatives, it outs down the time within which foreign goods entered for warehousing may be withdrawn for domestic consumption from three years to thirty days, leaving the sight to export unrestricted as to time.

medified by the Committee of the Senate, the duty on all warshoused must be paid within placty days from the goods warehoused must be paid within blocky days from the time of deposit, and unless they are experted within six mor this thoreafter the detires with not be refunded. If either of these propositions shall be adopted, the object for which the warepropositions shall be adopted, the object for which the war-heading system was adopted must be cefnated, and its usefulness destroyed. The first excludes warehoused goods from the home market after thirty days; the second in effect expels them from warehouse after misety days, because it requires the payment of duties within that time, and it absolutely excludes them from the foreign market after nine months, by depriving them of the right

foreign market after nine months, by depriving them of the reguof drawback.

The warehousing system was intended to promote the foreign
The warehousing system was intended to promote the foreign
commerce of the United States by embited our chief commercial
cities to invite trade from other countries by presenting for saic,
free from Government charges, the preducts of all other countries as well as ours. This our merchants can do with safety and
profit only by having perfect freedom to choose between the
none and foreign market, as well as freedom to select their own
time in which to effect saics. Experience has demonstrated that
the present system is well adapted to serve the end its suthers
designed. It has been in success? I operation for fourteer years,
and has proved to be a most valuable auxiliary to our foreign com
merce.

Without detriment to the public revenue or to any other inter

Without detriment to the public revenue or to any other interest, it has enabled Now-York and other Atlantic cities to presecute a profitable and growing trade in foreign goods, with Canada. Mexico, Cuba, and South America, and thereby to increase the year for the products of our own country. It has afforded like facilities to the merchants of San Francisco for extending their trade with neighboring nations on the Facilie.

In fact, this system is rapidly converting New-York and San Francisco into the chief entr-pots of tea commerce of the continent and the adjacent islands, with a fair prospect of including at no distant day that of Japan and China. Adopt either of the modifications proposed, and those advantages are lost. Your remoustrants will not believe that Congress is prepared to make such a wanton sacrifice of a valued foreign trade, especially at a time when the commercial interests of the country are seriously depressed by other causes.

Another objection to the bill is to be found in the intricate system of double duties which it proposes to establish. It must have been supposed to the importer to versious additional numbers of weighers, measurers, apprisers, and clerks, and at the sams time subject the importer to versious delay in passing his goods.

clerke, and at the same time delay in saming the goods.

The duties imposed by the bill embrace a wide range of rates, as it passed the ifouse of Representatives the charges are in many cases so high as to amount to a prohibition. On blankets pilot-cloths, cassimeres, broadclotts, cotton fabrics, and many other cloths, cassimeres, broadclotts, cotton fabrics, and many other cloths. cases so high as to amount to a prohibition. On blankets principally, cassimeres, broadcietts, cotten fabrics, and many other articles, the rates of dany, as compounded of the specific and advalorem charges, range from 20 per cent to rising 160 per cent. The modifications proposed by the Senate bring these customs nearer together by a moderate reduction of the higher rates; but no many articles tiep; remain so high that they amount to a virtual prohibition.

Again; this measure is known to be obnoxious to the Southern States. To plass if whom a part of them are not represented in Congress, could escreely full to widen the existing breach, and present a new and serious obstacle to reconciliation.

There are other reasons why the time seems to be most insuspicious for making such a radical change in the tariff policy of the country. The public treasury is empty and the rational credit impaired. These facts indicate the necessity of deviding reverdes. The adoption of this measure will certainly lease it by diminishing the imports. The responsibility of administrating the development is soon to be transferred to other hands.

It seems due to the people, and is those whom the people have

chosen to conduct the Government, that this subject should be postponed until the new Admirchtration. For these and other reasons your remonstrants sak that this bill

may not become a law.

Mr. J. Deferster Ooden moved as an amendment that the memorial be adopted, with the exception of the last clause relating to the incoming Administration.

Mr. Opdyre, indefense of that clause, said it struck him as the most important in the whole paper. It was in his mind the very strongest objection to the present

Mr. Lows said if that bill was passed, it would be done probably by the friends of the incoming Adminis-tration, with the desire that the ocium should devolve tration, with the desire that the ocium should devolve upon the present instead of the incoming Administration. He understood there had been very important modifications made in it. He understood that Mr. Seward had said yeste day that he would vote for an extension of the bond. The bill would not be passed, he ventured to say, in its present a spe.

Mr. Royal Pherry did not thick it amounted to much whether the last clause, were left in or not. He

much whether the last clause were left in or not. He hoped it would be allowed to pass, with the under-tanding that it was brought forward under the favor of the fliends of the present Administration, who were

all opposed to it.

Mr. Opdyke said he referred to the present and to
the new Administration, as well as Congress.

The amendment was lost and the memorial adopted.
On motion of Mr. Opdyke, the Chair then non-inted
as a Committee, Messrs. Opdyke, H. B. T. Malley, and

Denning Duer, to transmit the memorial to Congress. Capt. NYE read a report in reference to the regula-tion of the lake trade, layoring the protection of the interests of our commerce by preventing foreign vessels from engaging in our coasting trade, and dwelling at length upon the importance of retaining the control of

our lake trade.

Mr. Ws. NELSON presented a minority report, in

Mr. WM. Nalson presented a minority report, in favor of allowing foreign vessels on our coasts. It appeared to him that whoever would do the work the cheapest and best ought to have it.

Mr. ROYAL PHELPS moved, as the subject was very important, that both reports be hid on the table and printed, \$\frac{1}{2}\$ hich was adopted.

Mr. PROSPER M. WERMORE reminded the Chairman of the Correction Committee that unless comething.

Mr. Prospers at Wernork reminded the Consideration of the Quarantine Committee that unless something were done to-day, authorizing that Committee to act for the interests of the Chamber at Albany, measures would be matured in the Legislature, which would but off action here. There were two bills before the Legislature, materially affecting the interests of Quarantine.

The Committee were authorized to go to Albany. The Committee were authorized to go to Albany.

Mr. Maura asked the President whether a certain
meeting on the politics of the country, represented by
some of the papers as a regular meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, was correctly to be considered as
such, and if so, why he, as a member, had received no
notice to attend it.

Mr. Prair said it was merely a meeting of merchants at the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce.
He had granted his consent at the request of several
members.

Mr. DENNING DUER said great pains had been taken Mr. Dennis Duen end great pains had been taken by politicians of all classes to give forth the information, to the South, that it was a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce. He hoped hereafter no political meeting would be allowed to be held here.

Mr. Lathers moved that the Committee of that meeting, as it was not a partian affair, should be allowed to meet in the rooms, they being all members.

Mr. Oppyre seconded the motion. He said the missing that the first house had been any was due to the

Mr. Ofders seconded the motion. He said the maintake alluded to, if there had been any, was due to the public press, and not to anything done by the meeting. He did not regard the meeting as partisan, but thought the members of the meeting, with whom he differed, had acted under patriotic matives.

Mr. LATHERS made a speech to prove that the objects of the Chamber were to watch over the interests.

of commerce, and therefore the Committee might pro-perly meet there.

perly meet there.

Mr. S. HOTALING said he had received from the paters the same impression, namely, that the meeting had been one of the Chamber of Commerce, and wondered why he had received no notice. He was apprehensive that some use was unde of the Chamber of Commerce calculated at Washington to do some mischief as well as a good deal of good. The Chamber of Commerce should use its influence at Washington to have the Constitution and the laws obeyed, instead of aiding South Carolina in her Secession. [Cries of question, nuescion.]

question.]
Mr. Conxtino (Member of Congress elect from New-York) appealed to the Chamber that Mr. Hotaling should be heard, as they had just listened to a speech on the other side.

After some further remarks from Mr. Hotaling,

permi sion was given to sold Committee to meet in the Chamber to-morrow (Friday), and as often subsequent-ly as night be desired.

ly as night be desired.

The PRESIDENT presented the grift of Henry B.
Dawson, a copy of a book flublished, but nowhere to
be purchased, giving the bistory of the movements of
the merchants of New-York, which led to the establi-hment of independence in this country. It was accepted with thanks, and referred to the Executive Committee for examination. Adjourned.

BROOKLYN ITEMS.

The Rev. E. H. Chapin will lecture this evening at the Academy of Music. Subject. " Man and his

THE GALE. - The gale of wind which arose yesterday afternoon caused some damage in ripping up awnings, blowing off shotters, and bricks from chimneys. The force of the wind is represented to have been very severe on the line of the Long Island Railroad. At Hempstead Branch a windmill was broken in pieces, ne sheds were unroofed and fences blown down As far as ascertained, no serious damage resulted.

Show on the Sidewalks .- Several persons were arraigned before Justice Cornwell yesterday on charges of violating the ordinances, in not removing the snow and ice from the sidewalks in front of their premises. They were fined \$5 each. Complaints have been made to the Corporation Counsel against several hundred persons who have neglected to keep their sidewalks in

ANNIVERSARY OF THE BROOKLYN SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF RESPECTABLE, AGED, INDIGEST FE-MALES.-The tenth annual meeting of the Brooklyn Society for the Relief of Respectable, Aged, Indigent Females was held in the chapel of the Institution yesterday afternoon in presence of about 200 ladies and gentlemen.

The Institution, which was founded by the late Mr. John Grabam, is situated in Washington avenue, near DeKalb, and occupies an elevated position overlooking

Dekalb, and occupies an elevated position overlooming the most beautiful portion of the city.

The managers, forty in number, are selected from the various Protestant denominations of Brooklyn, two representing each Society. These are sub-divided into Committees to attend to all business belonging to the nstitution.
The meeting yesterday was organized by selecting

the Lev. Dr. Tmall, President. After prayer, the Rev. Mr. Cayler delivered an admirable addresss in Rev. Mr. Cayler delivered an admirable addresss in which he set forth the objects of the Institution, and the benefits it had accomplished. Interesting remarks were also made by the Rev. Drs. Budmaton and Farley. The annual report was read by the latter. It appears therefrom that the present household is characterized by uniform cheerfulness and respectability in all its relations, and that the managers feel encouraged in their work by knowing that they are now realizing the wishes of its junctions founder in being able to give a home to those who have been deprived by misfortune of previous home comforts. The present number of inmates is 48; boarders, 2; servants, 6. Entered the past year, 6; deaths during 1860, 3, which, conby mistor of immates is 48; boarders, 2; servants, 6. Entered the past year, 6; deaths during 1860, 3, which, considering the advanced age of the immates and their many hardships in life previous to their admission to the Institution, is not a large percentage. There have been no epidemics or peculiar forms of disease within its limits during the past twelve months, and the general good health enjoyed has been a source of much congratulation to those appointed for their care.

The Visiting Committee reported that the building

congratulation to those appointed for their care.

The Visiting Committee reported that the building had never been kept in a more healthy and pure condition than during the pust year. The food is sufficient in quantity, and unusually neat and natritious in its preparation for the table; orderly and well served; and the servants well trained and faithful in the performance of their respective duties.

The income and disbursements of the past year, as stated by the Treasurer, show that but a small available amount is left for the support of the aged women.

able amount is left for the support of the ag-d women. Previous to the last donation visit the monthly bills were barely covered by the funds in hand, leaving only the hope of other collections from annual subscribers to the hope of other collections from annual subscribers to carry them through; therefore the receipts of the donation visit were instantly called upon for current expenses, which, with the best economy, will only last until other measures are resorted to for the support of the Institution. The necessity of still further exertion is some form is urged, to awaken the sympathies of our more wealthy citizens.

The following are the officers and managers of the institution, for the ensuing year:

institution, for the ensuing year:

Institution, for the ensuing year:

First Directress.—Mrs. J. S. T. Stranshan; Second Directress, Mrs. Hosen Webster: Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. J. R. St. John; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Nathan Burchard; Treasurer, Mrs. David M. Stone; Managers, Mrs. Hazard, Mrs. Alanson Trask, Mrs. Ell Merrill, Mrs. Lewell Holbrook, Mrs. J. D. Haribut, Mrs. David Johnson, Mrs. D. J. Ledyard, Mrs. J. F. Herriman, Mrs. A. M. White, Mrs. Lewerd Anthony, Mrs. R. P. Buck, Mrs. M. E. Taylor, Mrs. J. F. Secretary, Mrs. M. E. Taylor, Mrs. J. F. Book, Mrs. M. E. Taylor, Mrs. J. F. Secretary, Mrs. R. P. Buck, Mrs. M. E. Taylor, Mrs. J. F. Secretary, Mrs. Mrs. M. E. Taylor, Mrs. J. F. Secretary, Mrs. Mrs. M. E. Taylor, Mrs. J. F. Secretary, Mrs. Mrs. M. E. Taylor, Mrs. J. F. Secretary, Mrs. Mrs. Mrs. Mrs. John A. Dayton, Mrs. W.

Buddington, Miss Hubbard, Mrs. W. S. Dunham, Mrs. Gregory, Mrs. E. Fish Mrs. Lucy Thompson Mrs. J. D. Sparkman, D. S. Lanman, H. W. Law, Mrs. Townsende, Mrs. C. Whiting, Mrs. C. Gutter, Mrs. Bartlett, Mrs. Elimendorf.

After the election of the Board of Managers, which, with few exceptions, is the same as last year, the

STIFFENING THE BACK-BONES OF OUR REPRESENTA-TIVES .- At a meeting of the Fifth Ward Humphrey Battalion, held at their headquarters, No. 131 Sanda street, Brooklyn, on Monday evening, Feb. 4, 1861, committee was appointed to forward the following resolutions to the Hon. Wm. H. Seward, United States Senate; the Hon. James Hamphrey, Member of Congrees; Governor Morgan, the Assemblymen of Kings County, and the Hon. Ica Harris, Senator elect:

County, and the Hon. Ira Harris, Senator elect:

Whereas, In consequence of the late call in Congres for compron see, the committee forward the following copy of resolutions, expressive of the feelings of the Humphrey Battallon.

Resolved, That as the withes and interests of the majority of the people of the United States are entirely opposed to any extension of the system of sive labor into any of the Territories of the United States, north or south of 30° 30°, or any we may ever have, the sectionests of the Humphrey Battallon, be forwarded to their tolevernor and Representatives.

Resolved, That the Humphrey Battallon do most respectfully counsel the Hon. James Humphrey to persevere in his notion and particularly of compromise to effect the object for which it was intended; and, moreover, that the people of the Free States, never nothing to concede, the Hon. James Humphrey is respectfully informed that it is eguist the wishes of his constituents to make himself a party to any attempt to concede one lota from the Chicas Platform.

Resolved, That the majority of the people of the United States, Platform.

inforced that it is against the wishes of his constituents to make inimed's party to any attempt to concede one tota from the Chicago Flatform.

Resolved, That the majority of the people of the United States, being perfectly satisfied with the Constitution as it is, and believing that it fully a savers the purpose for which the Fathers of the Country framed it, the Hon. James Humphrey is respectfully requested to set his face earnestly against any proposed elistration, being fully convinced that any so called amendments are in spirit against the interest of the majority of the citizens of the United States and the poor and oppressed of all nations.

Resolved, That the Hon. James Humphrey be respectfully informed that it is the wish of the Humphrey Battalion that he shall on every occasion, and by all means in his power, indorres the conduct of the gallant Major Anderson, and the notice veters. Scott, and the firm stand takes by the gallant Een. Wade of Ohio, on the Constitution and the enforcement of the laws, and of all others who like them, shall show their noble devosion to their country and the cause of Law and Liberty.

Resolved, That the Hon. James Humphrey be most respectfully requested to do all is his power to forward the Homestead bill, the Tariff, and Pacific Railcoad, as passed in the House of Representatives, and the hill of the repeal of the sugar duty, being of opinion that they will do more to bring peace and prespective the country than any concession or compromise.

Resolved, That the Hon. James Humphrey be most respectfully requested to give his add to the movement which shallabse for its object the removal of Slavery from the Border States by purchave, and the immediate enforcement of the Constitution and of the Laws.

W. H. Maron, Scorelary.

W. H. Hallon, J. W. H. Hallon, J.

FIRE—CATLE BURKED.—Between 10 and 11 o'clock on Wednesday night, a fire occurred in a small frame stable belonging to Mr. Nathan Totten, on the corner of Smith & Senderson streets, E. D. Before the fire was extinguished, five cows belonging to Mr. Totten, were hurned to death, and a valuable horse was seriously injured. Damage, \$350, on which there was no insurance. The fire is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

FIRE-CATTLE BURNED.-Between 10 and 11

Court or Sessions.-Very little business was done in this Court yesterday, the defendants called being out ready for trial, or absent on ball. Louis Frankenber dieted for violating the lottery laws, pleaded guilty, and fined \$10. Frankin Stavens, Ed. Gillian and Jas. Den belieded for assult and battery, not answering to their names alled, their recognizances were declared forfeited. Court then adjourned till this morning.

ALLEGED ROBBERT AND ABSON .- A young man sicking his name as John Fitzpatrick, was up before Justice Calle han yesterday, on a charge of arons and robbery. It is allege that some time ago he broke into the shee-store of Murkley, in Greenpoint, stole a quantity of shoes, and then set fire to the premises. The accused was committed for a hearing.

CITY ITEMS.

CLOSING LECTURE.-The Rev. Mr. Hudson will give his closing lecture at Clinton Hall, this evening, the subject being "Shakespeare Himself."

COMMISSIONERS OF POLICE.-This Board met yes terday, and made the following appointments: Robert O. Webb, Seventh Ward; Julius Lutz, Sixteenth; Hugh Quinn, Seventeenth: Dionis Stumpp, Sixteenth; Christian S. Crist, Eighteenth; John Van Orden, Eighteenth; Adam Monligan, Eighteenth; John Hoffman, Fourth; Wm. Hill, Eighteenth; James Terry, Twenty-second; Abraham Riker, Fourth; James Walker, Seventh.

THE LATE SELECTE OF ARMS BY THE POLICE .- It will be remembered that, on the 22d ult., under orders from Superintendent Kennedy, the First Ward and Harbor Police seized two different shipments of arms, from the steamer Monticello, a few hours previous to her departure for Savannah. One consignment of twenty eight cases, containing 560 Minie rifles, was to parties in Montgomery, Ala., via Savannah, each case being marked with only the letter L. The remaining ten carce also contained Minie rifles, and were consigned to parties in the State of Georgia.

On Friday last Mr. Kennedy received a note from Mann and Parsons, lawyers in this city, making a formal demand on behalf of Wm. H. D. Callendar, cashier of the State Bank of Hartford, for the ten cases of arms consigned to the State of Georgia. Mr. K. referred the lawyers to his counsel, and negotiations have been pending between them until yesterday, when the Superintendent peremptorily refused to ac code to the demand. A writ of replevin was served upon him, whereupon he placed all the arms in the custody of Sheriif Kelly.
On Thursday morning Mr. Kennedy was waited

upon by G. B. Lamar, President of the Bank of the Republic, who stated that he had just received a telegraphic dispatch from Milledgeville, Ga., directing him to forward the twenty-eight cases upon receiving the same from the State authorities of New-York. Mr. Kennedy told him that no formal demand had yet been made upon him for the arms; upon which Mr. Lamar asked, "Do you refuse to give them up." Mr. Kennedy replied that "it would be time for him to answer that question as soon as a demand had been properly made." Here the interview ended, the Superintendent assuring Mr. Lamar that he would not deliver up the arms to any person except the Sheriff, until compelled to do so by law.

We understand that the persons interested in the sale of there arms are about commencing a suit against Mr. Kennedy for damages. Mr. Callendar is reported to have made heavy advances to the State of Georgia, to enable its agents to purchase arms in Connecticut and New-York, to be used against the Government.

ARRIVAL OF THE UNITED STATES STEAM-GUNBOAT MOHAWK .- The United States steam-gunboat Mohawk Capt. Craven, arrived at this port yesterday from Key West, which port she left on the evening of January 31 Capt. Craven comes here in compliance with instructions from the Navy Department direction him to report to Commodore Breeze, and await orders. It is under stood that the Mohawk is temporarily recalled from cruising to be fitted up as a tender and messenger craft to the larger men-of-war now concentrating on the const. She belongs to that portion of the home fleet (e asisting of the gunboats Crusad r Mohawk and Wyandotte) which 1 as been detailed for intercepting slavers off the Cuban coast, but since the political atmosphere became somewhat clouded, her peregrinations have been confined to the coast of Florida. Commodore Breeze yesterday telegraphed her arrival to the anthorities, and had a berth given to her near the receiving-ship. She is in good order apparently, and does not look like the old Cromwell coal-barge Caledonia, which she was when purchased. There are about 100 officers and men on board, who express a desire to be allowed liberty on shore.

Capt. Craven reports that, on the 31st of January, the United States steamship Brooklyn arrived at Key West for coal, and would proceed the following-day for Fortngas and Pensacola. The Consider was in port, and would sail for New-

York in a few days. The Wyandotte was expected from Pensacols in the course of a week. The Macedonian was spoken, 30th ult., ten miles off Sand Key, bound into Tortugue. The Mohawk was thirty-six hours in a gale off Hat-

6th inst., off Capes of Virginia, saw steamship Quaker City, hence for Havana.

The M. has been for the past 18 months actively cruising on the north coast of Cuba, for the suppression

of the African elave-trade, during which time she has captured four slave vessels, and rescued from slavery 530 Africans. She also saved from shipwreck the American brig Tangier, and rescued the crew of a Spanish brig, wrecked on a dangerous shoel, for which the official thanks of the Government of Cuba were tendered to the officers and crew. She has also afforded relief to numerous other vessels upon her cruising-ground, and American commerce has been effectually protected against foreign aggression. The following is a list of her officers:

T. Augres Craven, Lieut. Com'g.; A. Barbet, E. T. Spedden, C. C. Carpenter, Lieuts.; S. Haltfield, Master; Delavan Bloodgood, Asat Surgeon; J. S. Albert, E. L. Dich, G. D. Emmons, Engineers; A. C. Craven, Captain's Clerk; J. H. Hoadley, Paymaster's Clerk; C. D. Humphrey, Master's Mate.

TEE NEW POSTMASTER AND ASSISTANT .- Mr. WIL ham B. Taylor on Wednesday received his commission for four years as Postmaster of New-York, and vesterday appointed Mr. Seymour J. Strong as his amistant. Mr. Strong has been connected with the office for more than twenty years, the greater portion of the time in the capacity of Superintend-nt of the Box Departm

THE CUSTOM-HOUSE ROBBERT .- The examination of Eugene A. Kozisy, of No. 9 Bond street, Brooklyn, who was arrested, on Tuesday, on complaint of William Jackson, who charges him with forgery, was commenced before Justice Welsh yesterday. Mr. Jackson is the proprietor of the bonded warehouse, No. 71 Greenwich street, and the accused was a clerk in the Custom-House. Jackson alleges that, by means of forged orders, purporting to bear the signatures of several officers of the Custom-House, the accused obtained from his possession \$2,000 worth of silk goods. Several witnesses were sworn, some of whom testified that the forged signatures resembled the handwriting of the accused, while others could see no resembla whatever. The examination was adjourned until Securday next, at 2 o'clock. Kozlay was held in \$2,000 bail to appear at that time, and Philip W. Engs, of No. 76 West Fourteenth street, became his surety. He denies any knowledge of the transaction, and the general belief is that the prosecution will be unable to matain the charge. MYSTERIOUSLY INJURED .- Joseph Brockman,

German residing with his family at the corner of Walker and Centre streets, was yesterday conveyed to the Blackwell's Island Hospital, suffering from injuries received in some unknown manner, but which will, doubtless, prove fatal. It appears that the deceased formerly worked in a paper-box manufactory in the building No. 144 Centre street, but had not been employed there for some weeks. Early in the morning be was found in one of the front rooms of that building in an insensible condition, with traces of blood on the floor near where he was lying. There was also a considerable quantity of blood found on the floor below where the injured man had been lying. He was conveyed to the Sixth Ward Station-House, where he was examined by a physician, who recommended his removal to the Hospital. It is a mystery how the unfortunate man got into the building, as he had no business there, and the door was found locked, as left by the occupants on the previous night. No one knew of his being in the building when the place was closed. It is thought by some that he had gained an entrance to the building for the purpose of robbing some of the rooms, but no property had been disturbed, nor were there any burglars' tools found on his person. The affair can only be explained by Brockman himself if he should survive. He is represented as a respectable, hard-working man, against whose character nothing derogatory is

A QUADRUPEDAL TRAGEDY-GREAT SHEEP-DRESS-ING MATCH.—About one hundred butchers and butchers' boys assembled at Harry Jennings's rat-pit, White st., on Wednesday evening, to witness a sheep-dressing match between Rodger Gorman and George Darby, for \$50 a side. The process of sheep-dressing requires a delicate and experienced hand, to avoid cutting and slashing into the meat, and so rendering it unsalable. The knife must glide dexterously between the skin and the inner covering of the flesh without harming. Dressing a sheep does not include the killing, or at least it did not last night. The animal being dead, the dresser performs the operation of "legging" it, or removing the skin from the legs in such a manner that the body will peel easily when hung up. He then ties the hind legs together, hangs the animal on a hook so that it swings free of the floor, removes the hide, "blows up" the four quarters, extracts the entrails, and then turns the carcast over to a boy, who carries it away. The match last night was between two experienced dressers, who were to prepare the animals for market, dressing them as well in every respect as if they were not working against time. Gorman is a young man, about 22 years of age, who is daily engaged in dressing sheep for age, who is daily engage Washington Market. He has long been noted for his expertness, but never contested for a wager before. Darby is an older man by several years, has won severnl matches, but has not followed the business of dressing for four years. Half-past 7 was the hour fixed for the commencement of the mortal combat, but the antag onists did not appear in the ring till two hours later. Ten live sheep were brought in, when the men toesed for the first choice, Gorman winning. They cach then selected five animals, making their choice alternately. Two judges and a time-keeper were chosen, and also a killer and two assistants to each man. Darby's five sheep were then slaughtered, and he commenced work, slowly at first, but quickening his motions as be got the taste of blood. Two minutes and upward were consumed in "legging" his first animal, whereupon several bets were made against him at odds of two to one. All five of the sheep were thus served before any were hung up. In "pelting" or skinning he made better time, completing his task in 32 minutes and 13 seconds. Gorman then took the knife and commenced his part in the sheep tragedy, "legging" his first animal in one minute and a quarter, thus gaining nearly a minute on Darby's time. Gorman's handling of the knife was the admiration of all beholders, a single slash taking the skin entirely from a leg. He is considered extensive on "legging." His work was handsomely and quickly done, he turning out his five sheep completely dreseed in 22 minutes and 3 seconds. When the result was announced, and he declared winner, terrific cheers were given for the "champion sheep-dresser," and finally the enthusiastic butchers took him upon their shoulde and carried him from the rat-pit to the bar attaches, where much percussion liquor was consumed in his bonor. Sheep-dressing is a thriving branch of business, little thought of heretofore. Prices for dressing range from 7 to 12 cents per animal, according to the quantity elaughtered; one man and an assistant care perform the pleasing operation upon a hundred anima's per day. Gorman is said to have dressed 150 sheep in

On Thursday morning a fire occurred in the frant store of Thomas Gilmartin, No. 158 Front street, but being discovered at an early moment, it was extinguished before much damage was done. As there is something mysterious about the origin of the fire, the matter is now under investigation by the Fire Marshat. Timothy Cragen of Hook and Ladder No. 4 while preceding to the fire, was run over and badly injured.

On Wednesday a fire broke out in the bailding Not. 333 and 335 West Eighteenth street, occupied by John Watts, manufacturer of phosphate of lime. Damage to the amount \$2,000 was sustained before the flames could be extincibled.

THE CHARGE OF A CONSPIRACT OF BROKERS.—In the case of Mr. Deminico Chisachi against John M Hodges, Gee, W. Markham and Borrance Davis, charging them with a complex acy to fraudulently procure from him a remnant of a stock of hits, case, furs, &c., Mr. Paris promptly demanded an investigation, dended any connection whatever with the other defendants or with the purchase, and ascreted that every state-out made by him was strictly true, and ocald be proved by Mr. Seymour of the Bank of North America. Justice Osborn immediately delicated Mr. Davis, without any examination of his witnesses, holding that there was nothing in the papers themselves to incure pate or connect him in any was with the matter. THE CHARGE OF A CONSPIRACT OF BROKERS.-In

EDWARD H. IMXON. M. D., Editor of The Scalp-1, and Operating and Consulting Surgeon, No. 42 60-60. Office consultations on the more obscure discasses of the polyiest sleers. Rupture, Plus, variousele, and Flatele, radically cure without the knife or lightupe. Office bours from 8 to 8, 1 to 1, and 7 to 9 evenings. teras, and experienced other bad weather. On the